

From Attachment B (items for Stage 1 implementation during first 7 years)

## **Watershed Program**

*The watershed program is designed to provide for coordination and integration of existing and future local watershed programs and to provide technical assistance and funding for watershed activities relevant to achieving the goals and objectives of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.*

*The watershed program encompasses all watersheds that contribute flow to the Bay-Delta system. The actions during Stage 1 are a mix of watershed coordination activities and demonstration projects designed to show benefits to the Bay-Delta system. Watershed actions are inextricably linked to the other Program elements though the focus on implementation at the local level.*

1. Establish a coordination framework to address common issues facing local watershed groups, including roles and responsibilities, funding support, technical assistance, information exchange, and to ensure effective communication and implementation among local, state, and federal agencies and stakeholder groups (yr 1); e.g., assist with funding and coordination to help local watershed groups develop approaches to watershed activities which are relevant to achieving CALFED goals
2. Develop a process to provide stewardship funds, as available, to local watershed groups (yr 1-2); e.g., MOU, standard agreements or contracts
3. Identify clearinghouse(s) that can assist watershed groups with information (including funding opportunities), technical assistance, and data storage and retrieval and identify the resources and support mechanisms needed by these clearinghouses to provide this service (yr 1-2)
4. Identify linkages between "upper" watershed restoration activities and the achievement of CALFED Bay-Delta objectives and identify projects (including research) that can help document the linkages (yr 1-7)
5. Identify priority locations for restoration activities that best demonstrate the linkages and implement demonstration projects to document the linkages (yr 1-7)
6. In collaboration with CMARP, develop and refine watershed conceptual models to quantify economic and non-economic benefits that accrue from watershed management or restoration activities (yr 1-4); e.g., conceptual models will identify performance measures to assess the level of success in achieving watershed program goals and objectives and for adjusting watershed activities when needed; monitoring data from watershed projects will be used to help validate models
7. Establish a watershed restoration project review panel to assist local watershed groups and private landowners in their restoration project concept, design, and implementation (yr 1-7); e.g., provide funding and MOUs to establish and maintain a peer review panel consisting of agencies/academia/private consultants to assist watershed groups

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For each of the aforementioned criteria, the considerations are as follows:

***a. Community-based (20 Points)***

- Is the proposal it community-based and formed and does it include local leadership, participation of diverse interests, and foster collaboration among multiple interests?

***b. Significant environmental results (10 Points)***

- Does the proposal contribute to ongoing local watershed stewardship that can achieve significant environmental results?

***c. Consistent with CALFED and related efforts (15 Points)***

- Is the proposal consistent with CALFED principles and goals and related resource protection activities, and does it foster community involvement in CALFED planning and implementation?

***d. Multiple Ecosystem Issues (5 Points)***

- Does the proposal address multiple ecosystem issues, such as habitat enhancement, rangeland management agricultural practices, urban development, and surface and groundwater quality?
- Is the proposal consistent with related resource protection activities?

***e. Provide for Ongoing Implementation (5 Points)***

- Is there the ability to "leverage" other funding sources, institutional mechanisms, or other mechanisms to provide for ongoing implementation?

***f. Monitoring (5 Points)***

- Does the proposal measure success and provide for necessary monitoring, including fostering volunteer monitoring?

***g. Applicant's Ability (10 Points)***

- Does the applicant demonstrate the capability, experience and qualifications to successfully complete the proposed project?

**3. Formal Proposal Format and Content**

Local watershed stewardship proposals should follow the proposal format described in this PSP (See Section II.H). However, applicants are encouraged to provide the

information, in the described format, that is most responsive to the criteria identified for this topic. In addition, the level of detail should be consistent with the proposed watershed stewardship activities and with the level of funding being requested. As noted elsewhere in this PSP, brief, concise yet thorough proposals are encouraged

#### **4. Contract Requirements**

Contract administration may be performed by U.S. EPA, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), or another entity, depending on the type of project, the type of applicant and the total number of watershed stewardship projects selected for funding. If an applicant is interested in reviewing the appropriate federal forms, including terms and conditions, that apply to selected proposals for this topic, they can be obtained by contacting EPA at (415) 744-1990.